

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15

SAM-01 MC-02 DRC-01 /096 W
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R 141200Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 642

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

CINCPAC

USSAG

13TH AF CLARK AIR BASE PHILIPPINES

UNCLAS BANGKOK 2553

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, EAID, TH

SUBJ: MEDIA ACCESS TO US-TENANTED BASES IN THAILAND

REF : BANGKOK 19019

1. ON FEBRUARY 13 EMBASSY RECEIVED FOLLOWING CABLE FROM
JAMES GREENFIELD, FOREIGN EDITOR OF NEW YORK TIMES.

DEAR MR. AMBASSADOR

THE FOLLOWING PRESIDENTIAL DETERMINATION NUMBER 74-14
ENTITLED "NEWS MEDIA ACCESS TO CERTAIN MILITARY BASES
ABROAD" WAS ISSUED AS A MEMORANDU FOR THE SECRETARY
OF STATE AND PRINTED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER ON
FEBRUARY 11. IT WAS SIGNED BY RICHARD NIXON AND
DATED JANUARY 28, 1974:

"PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY SECTION 29
OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1973, I HEREBY
DETERMINE WITH RESPECT TO EACH FOREIGN COUNTRY IN WHICH
THERE IS LOCATED A MILITARY BASE

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1) THAT WAS CONSTRUCTED OR IS BEING MAINTAINED OR

OPERATED WITH FUNDS FURNISHED BY THE UNITED STATES AND
2) FOR WHICH PERSONNEL OF THE UNITED STATES CARRY OUT
OPERATIONS

THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF EACH SUCH COUNTRY CONSISTENT WITH
SECURITY HAS AUTHORIZED ACCESS TO SUCH MILITARY BASE ON
A REGULAR BASIS TO BONA FIDE NEWS MEDIA CORRESPONDENTS
OF THE UNITED STATES. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT EACH
SUCH COUNTRY WILL CONTINUE TO AUTHORIZE SUCH ACCESS.
THIS DETERMINATION SHALL BE PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER."

OUR OWN LEGAL DEPARTMENT AND PERTINENT CONGRESSIONAL
AUTHORITIES REGARD THIS PRESIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM AS
GUARANTEEING ACCESS TO BASES IN THAILAND WHICH HERETOFORE
HAS BEEN DENIED TO US. SINCE WE WISH TO SEND A CORRES-
PONDENT TO THE BASE WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS, WE WOULD
APPRECIATE YOUR OWN JUDGEMENT AS TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
THIS WHITE HOUSE DIRECTIVE AS IT AFFECTS BASES IN THAILAND.

2. UNLESS DEPARTMENT PERCEIVES OBJECTION, PLEASE PASS THE
FOLLOWING REPLY FROM AMBASSADOR KINTNER TO GREENFIELD:

2. QUOTE I AM, OF COURSE, FAMILIAR WITH THE PROVISIONS OF LAW
AND THE PRESIDENT'S DETERMINATION REGARDING ACCESS TO
US-TENANTED BASES OVERSEAS. WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING VERY
CLOSELY WITH YOUR OVERSEAS CORRESPONDENTS IN HANDLING THEIR
REQUESTS. (PARA)

3. JOE LELYVELD HAS ASKED TO VISIT UTAPAO SOME TIME AFTER
FEBRUARY 20. WE HAVE ASKED HIM TO NAME A SPECIFIC DATE SO
THAT WE CAN START COORDINATION WITH THE ROYAL THAI GOVERNMENT,
BUT HAVE NOT YET HEARD FROM HIM. THAI GOVERNMENT PROCE-
DURES ARE TIME CONSUMING AND NORMALLY REQUIRE A MINIMUM OF
10 WORKING DAYS TO COMPLETE COORDINATION. (PARA)

4. WE HOPE YOU WILL ADVISE YOUR CORRESPONDENTS VISITING
SOUTHEAST ASIA THAT THEY SHOULD GIVE US AS MUCH ADVANCE NOTICE
AS POSSIBLE OF THEIR INTERESTS IN VISITING ROYAL THAI BASES
SO THAT WE CAN AVOID MISUNDERSTANDINGS AND LAST MINUTE DISAPPOINT-
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MENTS. END QUOTE
KINTNER

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